

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 MOSCOW 18298 031555Z  
ACTION CPR-03

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 SY-05 L-03 /024 W  
-----076117 040643Z /13

R 031545Z AUG 78  
FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5130  
INFO AMCONSUL LENINGRAD

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E.O. 11652: N/A  
TAGS: PDIP, ASEC, UR, US  
SUBJECT: PARKING PROBLEMS OF SOVIET DIPLOMATS IN  
WASHINGTON

1. AFTER DEALING WITH KAP ENTRY-EXIT POINTS ISSUE (REPORTED SEPTEL) DURING MEETING WITH ACTING POL COUNSELOR ON AUGUST 2, MFA USA DIVISION COUNSELOR ZAYTSEV RAISED SUBJECT OF THE PARKING DIFFICULTIES SOVIET DIPLOMATS ARE ENCOUNTERING IN WASHINGTON. THE SOVIET EMBASSY HAS MORE THAN ONCE REQUESTED THAT THE STATE DEPARTMENT FIND ENOUGH PARKING PLACES FOR THE CARS OF SOVIET PERSONNEL, SAID ZAYTSEV.

2. THERE PRESENTLY IS NO RECIPROCITY IN THIS FIELD, HE CONTINUED. IN MOSCOW, AMERICAN EMBASSY PERSONNEL HAVE NO PARKING PROBLEM. BUT SOVIET DIPLOMATS IN WASHINGTON ARE BEING TICKETED BY THE TENS EVERY DAY. IT IS OFTEN ENRAGING WHEN THEIR CARS ARE IMPOUNDED AND TOWED TO OTHER NEIGHBORHOODS, WHERE THEY ARE HARD AND EVEN DANGEROUS TO FIND, EVEN IN DAYLIGHT. THE OTHER DAY, FOR EXAMPLE, FIFTEEN SOVIET CARS WERE TOWED AWAY, YET AMERICAN CARS PARKED IN THE SAME AREA WERE LEFT UNMOLESTED.

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3. ZAYTSEV SAID HE HAD NO PAPER TO HAND OVER, AND WAS NOT REGISTERING A FORMAL PROTEST. HOWEVER, THE MFA REGARDED THIS AS A SERIOUS MATTER, AND ASKED THAT IT BE SOLVED PROMPTLY. OUR BILATERAL RELATIONS WERE DIFFICULT ENOUGH AS IT WAS. IF THE PROBLEMS WERE NOT RESOLVED SOON, THE MFA WOULD

HAVE TO TAKE "APPROPRIATE MEASURES" IN MOSCOW.

4. ACTING POL COUNSELOR UNDERTOOK TO TRANSMIT ZAYTSEV'S ORAL REMARKS TO DEPARTMENT, NOTING THAT THE PROBLEM UNDOUBTEDLY WAS COMPLICATED BY THE WDC RUSH-HOUR TRAFFIC REGULATIONS, PLUS THE DOWNTOWN LOCATION OF THE SOVIET EMBASSY.

5. COMMENT: WE WOULD APPRECIATE THE DEPARTMENT'S ONCE AGAIN LOOKING INTO THIS LONG-STANDING PROBLEM. WHILE, AS DEPARTMENT IS WELL AWARE, WE HAVE A MULTITUDE OF OPERATIONAL PROBLEMS AT THE CHANCERY, PARKING HAS NOT RECENTLY BEEN ONE OF THEM. TOON

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NNN

## Message Attributes

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**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** DIPLOMATIC PRIVILEGES, AUTOMOBILES  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
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**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
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**Review Markings:**  
Sheryl P. Walter  
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